



VILLAGE OF SAUGERTIES  
43 PARTITION STREET  
SAUGERTIES, N.Y. 12477

## Village Board Meeting Minutes September 18, 2023

**Present:** Mayor Murphy, Deputy Mayor Mayer Trustees: Terry Parisian, Vince Buono, Andrew Zink Absent: Brian Martin, Don Hackett

**Others:** Bill Kemble, Ed Quirk, Jackie Russell, Steve Yaeger, Dave Gordon, Rich Martino

**Mayor Murphy** opened the Village Board meeting at 5:30pm.

**Trustee Zink** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### Privilege Of The Floor

Steve Yaeger stated 310 Main Street special use permit has been approved. I would like to give you an idea of what this was like from our perspective. When Jackie and I tried to oppose this, we talked about how do you go about it? We had three things, Zoning Laws Comprehensive Plan, and the duties of the Planning Board. I know I mentioned this before, the duty statement needs to be amended. It states very clearly that the Planning Board has to ensure that any new development, those are the words any new development is in accordance with the that the goals set forth by the Comprehensive Plan now that the duty and they take an oath to uphold it. It's stated very clearly now we know that the Planning Board does not do that, and they are not going to, they can't. The way things work, I don't know when that statement was written, it's been there a long time and, but it no longer applies. So had we known that two months ago that's the reason we tried to fight that was the statement about the Comprehensive Plan, had we known we wouldn't have bothered, save ourselves a lot of time, the Planning Board a lot of time and even the developer. Read the statement and let's try and get this fixed. Trustee Parisian can I make a comment, Steve what is the wording? Jackie read the below statement.

#### **Duties:**

To review and approve site development plans to ensure any proposed development is in compliance with Village Zoning Code and is in accordance with goals outlined in the Saugerties Comprehensive Plan. To review and submit advisory opinions concerning applications for variances and amendments to the zoning regulations.

Steve stated you can twist that. Trustee Parisian, what I am trying to comprehend is new plan, any new development, it's an existing asking for a variance of the use. Like North Street, new plan, new development they need to meet the Comprehensive Plan. 310 Main Street is existing building, the duties in the Comprehensive Plan. It's not development, it's an existing. If you have to ask for a variance for in a zone that is designated for a certain use. Jackie stated to a layman a person who has no experience in this, this is very confusing and misleading. As he said I could have spent my summer entirely differently. This has been a detriment to my health and welfare, to be quite honest. I have spent countless hours actually researching and reading the Comprehensive Plan, reading Zoning Code, reading guidelines how Planning Boards operate, all to no avail, why did I do that. Knocking on doors to get a feel on neighbors felt, circulate a petition. I didn't need to do that this summer. Trustee Parisian commended Jackie on the all the work she did to try and understand it. Jackie stated it's very misleading. Trustee Parisian Comprehensive Plan, the Plan has been around for 50 years. Jackie stated the wording on the website under the Planning Board duties. Deputy Mayor Mayer suggested that the clearer wording on the website. Mayor Murphy suggested, if it's allowable so efforts like Jackie's so go by the waste side, states "any new use for any property". Trustee Parisian in relationship to Comprehensive Plan should be use, a use not within the Zoning code. Trustee Parisian my statement prior to this was if there is a variance requested and many variances request for the same use in that district and we need to look at the reasoning for the use in the district if the Zoning Code

that they have should reflect those uses. Mayor Murphy talked about the building on Livingston, that street had many more businesses years ago. Currently the street has now changed to almost residential. Steve stated that only through the Zoning Law. Trustee Parisian why are we granting special use permit, you are circumvented the law. Rich stated you solicit the public's opinion on the variance, then you ignore it. Or you have someone build a house on a plan and then they build something else. Trustee Zink just for clarification this is a special use permit. Rich I am talking about my house, they asked for a variance I submitted my objections. Trustee Parisian they should be looking after the areas and the uses. Steve, we didn't understand the process. Trustee Zink stated we can have the wording cleaned up on the website.

Steve also stated can we agree short-term rentals are a problem, only a problem if they go too far. Mayor Murphy we are working with County, we have worked on getting list, they are registered. The owners of short-term rentals also have to have someone locally responsible for that building, we had a lot of absentee landlords. Steve asked about restrictions on limits, what about the water supply? Mayor Murphy we are allowed 1.8 million a day, we average on a very high days 1.1 million a day. Steve usage on 310 Main Street for 7 rooms has to be huge, 24/ 7 365 days. Mayor Murphy explained average daily use for the Holiday Inn average daily use is 5,000 gallons, so 310 Main Street would not be that much for the 7 rooms. Jackie stated but there is aggregate effect. Mayor Murphy agreed. Mayor Murphy looking for secondary water sources we can grow outside the Village. You can't expect us to have development and we are giving water away. Steve, if you are looking at the numbers and the numbers are working, how much you have, how much you use then you are good, I'll accept that. Mayor Murphy thanked Jackie and Steve for bringing this to our attention. Trustee Zink stated that the Planning Board has drafted an FQA document that will be finalized soon. This can be given out to the public and /or applicants to better understand the process. Jackie asked if there could be a blurb about Public Hearing process, defining what occurs.

Jackie stated I would like to make another comment on 310 Main Street when the Chairman was reading the prepared statements from the attorney, despite the advisory comment from the County suggesting there be a front desk at this location that was dismissed there was no Zoning requiring it. I have to say as a woman who lives alone in her mid-sixties, I don't feel safe with that building 40 feet from my bedroom window. Maybe I am paranoid, but it is a legitimate concern for me. So, I don't know if anything can be done in this project, but I would like this addressed in future Zoning because I really don't think it's looking out for the general welfare of the community and that's what stated in Zoning Law. Mayor Murphy, you would feel better if someone was there? Jackie said it would be a huge difference. Steve stated seven rooms, if there was any kind of altercation who calls the police? Mayor Murphy can't promise anything, but I will take that on and look into that, I wasn't sure but now I will look into it and get back to you. Trustee Zink, the County Planning Board, the advisory comment; our Planning Board dismissed the County's advisory comment. Trustee Zink, the County was right to ask for.

### Regular Session

**Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from September 5, 2023. Trustee Parisian made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from September 5, 2023. Trustee Buono seconded the motion to approve the minute from September 5, 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Trustee Buono presented the Abstracts for September 18, 2023.**

• General	\$	100,614.71
• Water	\$	217,619.49
• Wastewater	\$	58,189.86

**Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the Abstracts for September 18, 2023. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve the Abstracts for September 18, 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Treasurer Report – Paula Kerbert**

Received last week for 2018 / 2019 from residence. Total tax 2018 - \$13,279.00 Total tax 2019 - \$13,394.00

Received (CHIPS) Consolidated local street and highway improvements payment \$28,680.00, paving sidewalks

Received (AIM) Aid & Incentives for Municipalities \$31,867.09, about \$3K over what was expected.

Trustee Buono and Paula have to decide to have the Budget reported on once a quarter at the Village Board Meeting  
All departments are currently below budget.

### Trustee Reports

**Deputy Mayor Mayer** – No TV23 meeting for September, attended a chamber board meeting. The Street Art Auction 9/17/2023, thank you to DPW for all their work in assisting in getting the horses moved. Next Chamber meeting will be at Salt and Fire on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Mum Festival meeting is scheduled, we need vendors if you know any small vendor you can have them call the Village office. The opening ceremony on Sunday Mum Festival at noon. The Garlic Festival, the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, and October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Local has their first performance on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. All goodwill offerings.

**Trustee Zink** – Planning Board approved 310 Main Street and 105 and 107 Partition Street. There isn't currently anything in front of the Planning Board. Next meeting the FAQ sheet, few minor changes. The Library is having another Dance party in October. I am waiting back to here from Kai Lord-Farmer to assist in

**Trustee Parisian** – Haven't heard back from the Town, working diligently to get the Town and Village water agreement completed.

**Trustee Buono** – All saw Alex's report Transportation Meeting, Mt Marion is not closed, there is a pre k. Nothing else to report. The situation at the Police Department, getting police report.

Gas renewal – Jeannine we always did an adjustable, stay with fix. Jeannine will contact.

Parking / Short-term rentals will be discussed at the next meeting as there are two members not here.

**Trustee Parisian** – NYC has passed a law the landlord has to

**Mayor Murphy** – Kevin Brown got 2 weeks under his belt; he is doing a great job. George has been great help to assist Kevin. Kevin is going to be a great asset to the Village.

**Trustee Buono made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the medical condition of a particular person as it relates to future employment of the Village. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the medical condition of a particular person as it relates to future employment of the Village. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously. In session at 6:14PM**

**Trustee Parisian made a motion to close the Executive Session that a discussion on the medical condition of a particular person as it relates to future employment of the Village. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to close the Executive Session that a discussion on the medical condition of a particular person as it relates to future employment of the Village. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously. Closed session at 6:26PM**

**Trustee Parisian made a motion to Adjourn the Village Board Meeting. Trustee Zink seconded the motion to Adjourn the Village Board Meeting. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:29PM.**

The next **Village Board meeting is Monday October 2, 2023, at 5:30pm**

Peggy Melville      Village Clerk      September 19, 2023